

# WEEKLYGRAPHIC

KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI.  
W. M. GILL, Editor.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

The N. Y. World has passed into the hands of Jos. Pulitzer, of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. He will give the sedate New Yorkers a little taste of breezy, western Journalism. We look for a little fun as soon as the music gets fairly started.

We cannot furnish any more back copies of the GRAPHIC containing the "Hired Girl." The supply is exhausted. The story is taking everywhere and we are receiving cards and letters every mail, calling for missing numbers. We need a few copies of number 2 of this volume ourselves.

Kansas City has heretofore flattered itself that it was cyclone proof owing to its peculiar location, but that notion no longer exists. Sunday evening about four o'clock the inhabitants of the city were visited by one which left desolation wherever it touched. About fifty houses were wrecked and three or four people killed. Among a large number of people who were more or less injured and bruised by the storm we noticed the name of Prof. J. M. Greenwood. He received a sprained ankle and a slight wound on the head. The total damage to property is estimated at from two to three hundred thousand dollars.

It is becoming a serious question with people, whether this cyclone business is to go on increasing in frequency and destructiveness year after year, or not. We can very well remember the time when people in this country pitied the poor unfortunate denizens of the West Indies, whom the histories and geographies pictured as fleeing in terror from the track of the terrible hurricane, or showed them clinging like grim death to a sapling, while all about them was flying timbers, stones, animals, falling chimneys, zig-zag lightning, and such other startling effects as the lively imagination of the artist might suggest. Little did we think then that such a foreigner would ever become naturalized in civilized America, especially west of the Mississippi, or that we could learn to calmly discuss the chances or put our trust in a hole in the backyard, and take out a cyclone policy on our houses as we do against fire and lightning.

A decision rendered last Monday by the Supreme Court in regard to schools has caused not a little speculation and excitement. The suit was brought to prevent the teaching of foreign languages in the common schools of St. Louis and to prevent pupils under six and over twenty from participating in the benefit of the public funds raised by taxation for school purposes. The decision holds that the word common does not apply to the branches which may be taught but is used in the sense that the school is common or free to all children between the ages named and to no other. The effect will be to cripple the kindergarten schools on the one hand, where children under six years are admitted, and the night schools where adults are taught. There are some who think the decision will also affect the various State Normal schools, and even the University, a majority of the pupils of those institutions being over the age of twenty. We hardly agree with this view of the case, as the funds for the Normal schools are appropriated by special action of the legislature from the general fund of the state, and do not constitute any part of the "school fund." At least we so understand it.

## COURT HOUSE SITE.

The county court has appointed a committee to "look up" a suitable site for a court-house, so that the question may be said to be open for discussion. So far we have not found any advocate for putting the building on the old site in the center of the public square. One of the most forcible objections we have heard given is that the noise and confusion of the streets would prove a constant annoyance and interruption to proceedings especially during the summer months. It would also be subject to all the dust and flying dirt of the four streets around it whatever direction the wind might be. The site wherever chosen should be roomy, easily approached and reasonably near the center of business and be procurable at a fair price. We do not understand that the present action of the court even suggests the immediate building of the court house, but is taken in view of the fact that our town is constantly growing, and that property such as will be suitable for the purpose is likely either to advance largely in price or to be built upon and thus rendered more costly or more difficult to secure. We believe it a wise move, justified by sound business principles, in view of the fact that such a site will be imperatively necessary in the near future.

## A WORD TO ADVERTISERS.

The GRAPHIC in the first place, is a paper that is liked by its patrons. This fact alone adds to its value at least one hundred per cent as an advertising medium. In the second place, it has one of the best subscription lists in North Missouri. When we say best we mean not merely numbers but in the character, stability, standing, of those who are its patrons. They are mostly cash paying, responsible people, and represent all parties. Leading and prominent Democrat, Greenback and Republican farmers in every township take the GRAPHIC, not on account of its politics, or to support their "organ" but because it is a good family paper and supplies them with a wide range of reading matter. This is where we hit the nail square on the head by keeping our subscription price at a figure that would enable us to give a big paper with a large amount of reading in it.

No county paper can run on the cheap plan without degenerating into a mere advertising sheet, and then the people don't want it at any price, and if they do take it, through habit or policy, it is generally cast aside with a contemptuous remark. On the other hand we find that many GRAPHIC patrons preserve and file their papers—a rare custom—and thus keep it for reference from year to year. We could cite other reasons why the GRAPHIC is a valuable means to reach the public but will mention but one more and that is that it is becoming recognized, more and more, as the "organ," not of a clan, a clique, or a special business interest, but of the whole people, as proven by the constantly increasing local correspondence which appears in its columns.

Business men would do well to keep all these points in mind.

## CYCLONE NEWS.

Sunday afternoon various portions of the west were visited by destructive cyclones.

Our near neighbor, Macon City and the country adjacent, came in for a share of the destructive work. We learn particulars from an Extra issued by the Macon Times. The storm occurred about nine o'clock Sunday night and its course was the usual one taken by such storms, from southwest to northeast. The storm first commenced its destructive work some fifteen miles southwest of Macon and was accompanied by the usual funnel shaped cloud.

From thence to Macon where it left a path of destruction and death. Three persons, Mrs. John Clarkson, Mrs. Elijah Banta, and Mr. Chas. Ross all living in the country, were killed and a large number of other persons more or less injured. The losses in the country before the storm reached Macon were:

A. B. Lewis, barn \$300; C. E. Miller, house and barn, and stock killed \$3,000 to \$4,000; J. A. Summers, house, barn and orchard \$1,000; John Clarkson, whose wife was killed, house ruined, \$2,000; Mr. Beeson, house; Jos. Burris, residence, outhouses, trees, etc., \$4,000; the Burris school house; Wm. Shunk, residence unroofed; John Blakenhip, damage to buildings \$2,000; house occupied by Chas. Buster and belonging to Jas. Banta, totally destroyed, loss on house \$500, goods \$150; John Miller, barn wrecked; Evans Wright, house blown down and burned \$300; Allen Miller, house damaged \$300; Allen Banta, all farm buildings destroyed \$2,000; Thos. Roberts, house and barn \$1,500; W. Banta, house \$600; Thos. Banta, house turned half way round; the next house in the line of the storm was Elijah Banta's where quite a number of the relatives and friends had assembled to see Mrs. Banta and Mr. James. Mrs. Banta's father, both of whom were confined to their beds in the house with illness. There were in all 17 persons in the house, but one of whom escaped unharmed, and not a stick of a single building on the place was left standing. Of those in the house, Mrs. Elijah Banta was fatally injured, living about half an hour, and Mr. Mordecai Harp and his son Alonzo were seriously, and perhaps fatally injured. The old gentleman was bruised about the stomach, and the young man had a frightful hole—large enough to admit of three fingers—torn into his side under the armpit, extending into the hollow of the body.

Next was the improvements of T. B. Miller, which were entirely destroyed and scattered through the woods. The damage is perhaps \$2,500. A quarter of a mile west Wm. Burton's house was unroofed. Northeast half a mile Chas. Ross had recently built a small box house, which he and his family occupied. Nothing was left standing on the place and Mr. Ross was killed. In the same neighborhood Mr. Smith's house and barn were destroyed and Mr. S. slightly hurt.

Along the path of the storm, as it crossed the East Fork, great damage was done to timber, and where the hills were struck on this side the grass was peeled off.

The next damage was to Mr. Jurgenson's barn, on the edge of town, which was damaged about \$300.

Near by, Mr. Wm. Magnus' barn was destroyed, and two rooms to his house torn away. Damage about \$1,300.

A strange incident in this locality is found in the fact that about three feet of water in Capt. Bill Smith's pond, on the old Lyle place, was taken out.

## IN MACON CITY.

The storm passed through that part known as South Africa and most of the buildings destroyed were of little value. The colored school building, a commodious brick structure was leveled to the ground as was also the African M. E. Church. On the latter there was a Cyclone policy of \$1,000. A large two-story house owned by G. Stiger, of Chicago was crushed like an eggshell. It was unoccupied. The residence of Mrs. Barlow was considerably damaged but is covered by insurance. The number of buildings destroyed or damaged are variously reported at from thirty or forty in number. The Times concludes its account by saying:

Macon has had her long-looked-for cyclone, and the terrible work it has wrought will long be remembered by the people whom it visited. The colored people suffered mostly, and some are in very distressed circumstances, as they have lost everything.

The scene of the wreck is a distressed one. Men with resolute faces are working faithfully, silently, to gather about them all that is for them to gather. Women and children, some weeping, others more courageous, helping their husbands and friends to erect a place of shelter from the rain of another night. The work is a terrible work, but 'tis done.

## AT OTHER POINTS.

A number of other points were visited by similar storms. At Kansas City the suburbs were swept and over two hundred thousand dollar damage done to buildings, and three persons killed. At Wyandotte, the storm was also heavy, and one death reported. Trains were delayed on all the incoming western roads, and the storm is reported as far west as Denver.

At Liberty, a great deal of damage was done; but no loss of life is reported. William Jewel college was partially unroofed, and otherwise seriously damaged.

At Missouri City and vicinity much damage is reported and casualties not reported.

Webb City and Ormago, of Kansas, suffered heavily. The latter completely wrecked. Not a house left standing. Several seriously wounded but none reported killed. The storm lasted only fifteen minutes but left nothing of the place. A train left Joplin as soon as possible with medical and other assistance for both places.

The cyclone passed just east of Patensburg, leveling forests, demolishing houses and destroying everything in its track. No lives reported lost, though many narrow escapes.

## County Court Proceedings.

The county court was in session May 7, 8, 9, 10, & 11 and transacted the following business:

Chas. M. Malone ordered to draw state school funds, amount \$1,087.40 also \$950 swamp land fund from the state.

Ordered the county clerk to make out the financial statement and publish the same in the Journal, Democrat and GRAPHIC, each paper to receive \$20.00 therefor.

Ordered full payment certified to state register of lands on n½ n½ and wqr 16-16-17, and patents issued to Andrew Ellison assignee of Thos. J. Dockery.

Approved P. J. and Catherine Rieger's school fund bond for \$400 in lieu of S. R. Dunham's bond and released Dunham's school fund mortgage.

Also released Martha Speer's school fund mortgage, and Nancy and Elmer Dean on part of block 6 Morris' addition.

Approved the following bonds to school funds and ordered warrants for the amounts: J. S. Hewitt \$275, Wm. G. Lewis \$125, T. W. Prentice \$180, G. Vansickle \$325, Thos. Davidson \$125, Geo. Everhart \$230.

John A. Miller, et al, road petition was dismissed at petitioner's cost, also same order on the following petitions: Edward Barden, et al, R. M. Toler, et al, S. N. Holloway, et al, W. J. Sandry, et al, S. C. Zeigler and T. W. Prentice, et al, Isaac Capps, et al.

Ordered commissioner to view the routes petitioned for by the following persons and report at Aug term: John Bragg, et al, Geo. W. Broyles, et al, D. C. Johnson, et al.

Appointed John Bell, Lyman Darrow and J. R. Merrill commissioners on private road of Michael Howley to report at Aug term.

Michael Hay's road continued for damages to be paid.

John B. Ferris road continued for parties to relinquish right of way.

Geo. T. S. pence road continued for proof of new road.

Evan Britt road same order.

H. L. Yowell road continued for payment of damages.

Robt. Steeth road continued for proof of condition of new road.

J. W. McCoy road continued to 1st Monday in June.

Appointed Noah Motter, David Fogley and Jacob Culler a jury to assess damages on Benj. N. Kerns road.

Declared the Al McKendry road a public highway.

John Patterson road continued to Aug. term for parties to relinquish right of way.

J. H. Turner road continued for proof of condition of new road.

Wm. McPhebridge road continued for commissioner's report, also E. E. Hall road for same.

Appointed Noah Stuckey, S. M. Crawford and Simon Binkley a jury to assess damages to Geo. W. Coulson and Wm. Hynds on H. O. Ryan road.

Granted the change of road petitioned for by W. F. Mason and vacated the old road.

Appointed Jesse B. Griffin, Geo. L. Coffin and S. C. Draper to assess damages to John Thomas and Imbler, on W. P. Turner road.

Appointed B. J. Hortell overseer road dis. 2, polk township.

Appointed A. R. Bowman, overseer road dis. 5, salt river tp.

The following persons were appointed a committee to look out a site for a court house and report at the June term: H. F. Millan, T. C. Campbell, C. B. Polly, James Ellison, W. C. Elmore, John W. Gill, Wm. Smoot, S. M. Crawford, R. N. Toler, S. B. Abercrombie, Hiram Snyder, Noah Motter, and John Shibley Sr.

Appropriated \$165 to build a bridge across Cottonwood branch south of Adair.

Appointed John H. Smith overseer dis. 2, Walnut tp.

Appointed J. S. Hewitt overseer dis. 6, Liberty tp.

Wm. T. Baird financial agent to refund the Benton tp. e½ salt river tp. railroad bonds made his report and returned \$10,000 of the Benton tp. bonds, which were refused by parties holding the same amount of 8 per cent bonds.

Released the penalties and cash on timber land on taxes on timber lands owned by the late A. Stingerland.

Approved Chas. H. Malone's quarterly settlement as county treasurer.

Appointed S. N. Holloway overseer road dis. 1, salt river tp.

Appointed R. M. Johnson overseer dis. 5, Liberty tp.

Ordered A. D. Risdon, Pros. Atty. to present a petition to the circuit Judge for authority to make a levy to create a sinking fund to pay off the bonded indebtedness of the country, Benton tp. and e half Salt River tp.

Ordered the following warrants drawn on the treasury:

CONTINGENT FUND.

Calogian & Gardner Books and blanks \$ 913

Harry Tuamond, freight on safe doors and drays 10.00

W. J. W. & Co. hardware county jail 2.50

John Egbert work for probate office 3.00

John Egbert, boarding prisoner etc 8.45

Robt. Lorenz, rent of probate office 15.00

John Egbert, boarding prisoner etc 8.50

Smith & McElaine, desk for circuit etc 12.25

Geo. Melvin, painting jail 2.00

S. A. Baylor, rent of probate office 15.00

Reiny & Hooper, stationery 1.50

H. F. Jolley & Co. to Hanks etc 9.20

H. W. Ross & Co. coal 2.70

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND.

Harvey Hattery, building bridge in Pettis tp \$100.00

Chas. Callison, materialroad dis. 2 Liberty tp 30.00

Alex. McKindry, " " " " 10.00

W. J. W. & Co. " " " " 20.00

John Egbert, " " " " 10.00

Geo. W. Coulson, " " " " 10.00

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1876, and for nearly forty years before that time, the practice of the Department of the Interior was and had been to issue second patents whenever the officers of the departments became fully satisfied that prior patents for the same lands had been erroneously issued and were entirely null and void. The propriety of issuing second patents in such cases without previously remanaging the contest to the courts, was in 1837 referred to Attorney General Butler, and in 1848 was again referred to Attorney General Toucey, and both of these officers rendered opinions in favor of the practice, where it was clear from the rulings of the Supreme Court of the United States that the earlier patents were mere nullities and conveyed no title. (See Opins. Atty. Genl. Vols. 3 and 5, pp. 240, 7, respectively).

The practice of the department in that respect became thus firmly established, and from 1837 to 1876 many such second patents were issued without the earlier patents being first declared void in the judicial tribunals. Many of them subsequently came before the Supreme Court of the United States, and in every instance that tribunal sustained the second patents and held the Government title being conveyed by them as it did in the case of NEWHALL VS. SANGER.

Prior to the decision in that case the California railroad companies had obtained patents in the department for many thousands acres of land of precisely the same status as the contest between Newhall and Sanger and the legal principles involved were of course precisely the same in respect to every such tract. The only question to be determined in each case was whether at date of the railroad grant the tract was in a state of reservation within the limits of a Mexican grant; claim, the same as the track in controversy between Newhall and Sanger, and that was a question to be determined by the officers in charge of the public lands, and not primarily by the judicial tribunals.

Hundred of settlers have been for years occupying the lands in California for which such void patents were issued to the railroad companies. Had the practice of issuing second patents which had prevailed in the department for more than a generation prior to July 12, 1876, been continued after that date these settlers would long since have obtained title to their land. But within the period of about two months after the case of Newhall vs. Sanger had been decided by the Supreme Court, showing that the California railroad companies were holding many thousands acres of land under illegal patents improperly issued, the department changed the practice of issuing second patents for the same lands until the elder patents in each particular case had first been declared void in the judicial tribunals.

No honest claimant, desirous only of protecting a just claim, had ever complained of the former practice of the department, nor had the Supreme Court of the United States ever found fault with it.

## LaPlata Notes.

Graphic Correspondence.

LA PLATA, May 15th.—We have just had one of the best rains of the season.

Last week corn planting was a regular boom, and now that it is over, replanting will be the coming boom.

Mrs. Sally Hood has gone to visit her mother and sister who are dangerously ill.

Esquire Mikels has postponed his visit to the western part of Missouri, indefinitely.

Wilson township has lost one of its incorrigible old bachelors, in the person of Mr. Henry Morgan. Mrs. Sophia Roop, of Quincy, Ill., is the bride. The memorable event occurred on the 11th in that city. Best wishes.

The ground hereabouts is too wet to plow just now, being the first time, this spring, consequently affording the farmer his first opportunity to rest up a little.

Coal prospecting is still going on and they have now reached a depth of 130 feet. The drill is now in hard limestone.

It was in a drug store that a young and sprightly school teacher last week addressed the clerk:

"I would like a sponge bath."

"Ah! oh, a—will you please repeat? I did not quite understand you," stammered the clerk.

"I would like a good sponge bath," again demanded the customer, while a pair of sharp gray-eyes, beaming with wonder and impatience, made him trouble. More dead than alive, he managed to tell his fair visitor his inability to catch her meaning.

"Well, I never! If that is n't queer! I think I speak intelligibly enough. I want—you—to—give—me—a—good—sponge—bath."

At this moment the proprietor whispered:

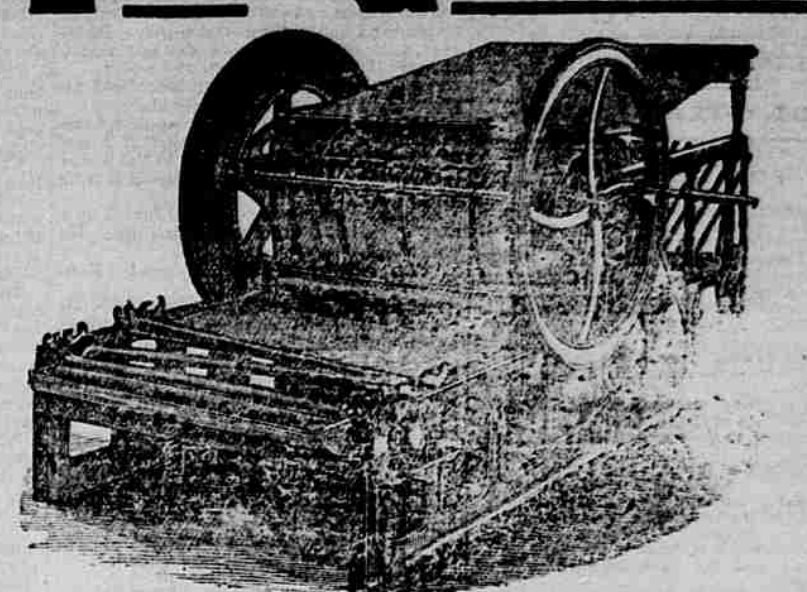
"She wants a bath sponge."

At the same moment: "she comprehended the trouble and fled from the store before she could be recognized by any one, but too late. A gentleman raised his hat to her, passed in, and all was discovered.—Butte Miner

The second volume of the "Library of Aboriginal American Literature" will be "The Iroquois Book of Rites," edited by Horatio Hale. It will appear in June.

A very handsome edition of Philip Gilbert Hamerton's "Etchers and Engravers" has been brought out by Roberts Bros. Few books are worthier of a choice and elegant form.

# THE GRAPHIC



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## Missouri Patents.

Mr. H. N. Jenkins, solicitor of patents, Washington, D. C., officially reports to the GRAPHIC the following complete list of patents granted Missouri inventors for the week ending May 1st, 1883: R. T. Bishop, St. Louis, fender for railway-car; C. P. Nicolson, Lamar, car-coupling; J. N. Wilson, Carthage, book-clamp; W. Minnaker, Kansas City, car-coupling; R. B. Palmer, Paris, centrifugal machine for treating sorghum and other sugars; B. E. Buse, St. Louis, cosmetic-wash; T. Z. Cole, Kansas City, dredging machine; E. Kettinger, Jefferson City, harness-pad; J. R. Picketts, Strafford, device for converting motion; W. N. Graver, St. Louis, brick-kiln.

## A Ticked Hoosier.

A Indiana farmer walked into the house the other day with a tickled look on his face and his hat on his ear and called out:

"By gum! Hanner, what do you think? You know that fellow sold me a churn and had me sign a paper."

"Yes."

"Well, that paper was a note for \$50."

"Noa!"

"True as preaching. And what else do you suppose?"

"He sold it?"

"Right you are. Went and sold it to a bank in Vincennes, and I've got to pay it. Think of it Hanner—my note good 'nuff to be sold to a bank four stories high, and with plate-glass windows, and they send me the same kind of a note to pay they would a rich man. I must let old Sims hear of it some way. Sims family looks upon us as scrubs, and here we are treated the same as if we rode in a keeledge behind four horses.

Subjects for Debates and Compositions.

Debates.—1. Resolved, that the study of English Literature should be included among Graded or High school studies. 2. Ought not trial by a jury of twelve be abolished? 3. Resolved, that Compulsory Education should be required in the United States. 4. Ought Capital Punishment to be abolished?

Compositions.—1. Weather Prospects. 2. The advantage of Keeping a Note Book, (and extracts from it). 3. Cloud Scenery. 4. Among the Stars. 5. The First Spring Flowers. 6. The Sugar Camp. 7. The New Life of Nature.

## WATCHING ONE'S SELF.

If we are sufficiently watchful over our own conduct, we shall have no time to find fault with the conduct of others.

"When I was a boy," said an old man, "we had a schoolmaster who had an odd way of catching the idle boys. One day he called out to us—

"Boys, I must have closer attention to your books. The first one that sees another idle, I want you to inform me, and I will attend to the case."

"Ah!" thought I to myself, 'there is Joe Simmons, that I don't like. I'll watch him, and if I see him look off his books, I'll tell.'

"It was not long before I saw Joe look off his book, and immediately I informed the master.

"Indeed!" said he, 'how do you know he was idle?'